(HMWG) promoter of wheat; the CsVMV "Cassava mosaic virus" promoter; the CoYMV "Commelina yellow mosaic virus" promoter; and the chimeric promoters of the CsVMV and CoYMV promoters.

23) (Amended) The synthetic vector of claim 19 wherein said transcription terminator is a terminator of a plant cell.

B' cont'd

24) (Amended) The synthetic vector of claim 23 wherein said terminator is a 35S or a nos terminator.

Remarks

Applicants submit that claim 17 is amended to be an independent claim which incorporates the elements recited in claim 1, claim 18 is amended to be dependent from claim 17 only. The amendment is supported by claim 1 and the original claim 18. Amendments in claims 19-24 find support in the original claims 19-24. No new matter is added as the result of the above amendments. Claims 17-24 are currently pending for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-up sheet showing the changes made in claims 17-24:

17) (Amended) A synthetic vector consisting of:

- a nucleic acid sequence coding for a first origin of replication;

- a nucleic acid sequence coding for a selection agent;

- a trfA locus coding for a protein that permits an increase in the replication rate of the vector; and [The clean synthetic vector of claim 1 wherein said vector comprises]

- a nucleic acid sequence coding for a T-DNA, including a right border, RB, and a left border, LB, which permit the vector to function as a binary plasmid.

18) (Amended) The [clean] synthetic vector of [claim 16 or]claim 17 wherein [said MCS is] a multiple cloning site is situated near the right border RB of the T-DNA.

19) (Amended) The [clean] synthetic vector of claim 17 wherein said vector comprises a nucleic acid sequence coding for at least one expression promoter and at least one transcription terminator situated between the left border, LB, and the right border, RB, of the T-DNA.

20) (Amended) The [clean] synthetic vector of claim 19, wherein said expression promoter is chosen from the group consisting of a constitutive [promoters]promoter, an inducible [promoters]promoter, and a tissue specific [promoters]promoter.

21) (Amended) The [clean] synthetic vector of claim 19 wherein said expression promoter is a plant expression promoter.

22) (Amended) The [clean] synthetic vector according to claim 21 wherein said expression promoter is chosen from the group consisting of: the 35S CaMV promoter; the ep35S of CaMV; the pea plastocyanin gene promoter, and its "enhancer"[and derived zones]; the "high molecular weight glutenin" (HMWG) promoter of wheat; the CsVMV "Cassava mosaic virus" promoter; the CoYMV "Commelina yellow mosaic virus" promoter; and the chimeric promoters of the CsVMV and CoYMV promoters[; and derivatives thereof].

23) (Amended) The [clean]synthetic vector of claim 19 wherein said [expression]transcription terminator is [chosen from the functional terminators]a terminator of [in] a plant cell.

24) (Amended) The [clean]synthetic vector of claim 23 wherein said [functional]terminator is a 35S or a nos terminator.